

JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF AMERICA
GRADUATE SCHOOL

Fall 1990

Profs. Roskies et al.

Lit. 8101x Methodologies Seminar in Jewish Literature

Objectives: To explore in an interdisciplinary fashion how ancient, medieval and modern literary texts have become sources of Jewish collective memory; to examine how later generations refract their own historical experience through the reading and misreading of earlier literary-historical documents.

Requirements: The first semester will consist of biweekly lectures each with a mandatory reading assignment. During the second semester the students will present their seminar papers.

10 Sept. The Crisis of Memory in Modern Times

Roskies

Eric Hobsbawm, "Mass-Producing Traditions: Europe, 1870-1914," in The Invention of Tradition, ed. Eric Hobsbawm & Terence Ranger (Cambridge UP, 1984). On reserve.

David Lowenthal, The Past is a Foreign Country (Cambridge UP, 1985), chaps. 5, 7. On reserve.

Pierre Nora, "Between Memory and History: Les Lieux de Mémoire," Representations 26 (1989): 7-25. Xerox on reserve.

24 Sept. The Crusades in Popular Memory

Alan Mintz

The Crusade Chronicle of Solomon bar Simson - The Literature of Destruction, ed. David G. Roskies (JPS, 1989), pp. 74-82.

David Bar Meshullam of Speyer, "Elohim, al dami" - The Penguin Book of Hebrew Verse, pp. 374-75.

Saul Tchernichowsky, "Baruch miMagentsa" (Baruch of Mayence, 1901) - English translation by Leonard Victor Snowman - Ref PJ 5053 T3 Z85. Yiddish trans. by I. J. Schwartz - Res PJ 5053 T3 L4.

Alan Mintz, Hurban: Responses to Catastrophe in Hebrew Literature (Columbia UP, 1984), pp. 123-29. Res PJ 5012 H65 M5 1984.

- 8 Oct. The Sephardic Mystique Ivan Marcus
Ivan G. Marcus, "Beyond the Sephardic Mystique," Orim: A Jewish Journal at Yale 1:1 (1985): 35-53. Xerox on reserve.
- Ivan G. Marcus, "History, Story and Collective Memory: Narrativity in Early Ashkenazic Culture," Prooftexts 10 (1990): 365-88. Xerox on reserve.
- Ismar Schorsch "The Myth of Sephardic Supremacy," Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook 34 (1989): 47-66. Xerox on reserve.
- Heinrich Heine, "The Rabbi of Bachrach," trans. E. B. Ashton (NY, 1947).
- 22 Oct. The Baal Shem Tov: The Making of a Jewish Cultural Hero David E. Fishman
In Praise of the Baal Shem Tov, ed. Dan Ben-Amos & Jerome R. Mintz (Indiana UP, 1970), tales - Ref BM 755 I8 D613 1970.
or Shivhey haBesht, ed. S. A. Horodetzky, pp. 37-57, 101-64.
- S. Dubnow, Toldot hahassidut, chap. 1, pp. 41-75 - Ref BM 198 A2 D8. Or Geshikhte fun khasidizm - Res BM 198 D88.
- Martin Buber, Tales of the Hasidim: Early Masters (Schocken), pp. 35-85 - Ref BM 532 B7783 1947.
- Zishe Landau, "The Holy Balshemtov,"; Itzik Manger, "Saint Besht" - Onions and Cumcumbers and Plumbs, trans. Sarah Zweig Betsky, nos. 18-19.
- Robert M. Seltzer, "The Secular Appropriation of Hasidism by an East European Jewish Intellectual: Dubnow, Renan, and the Besht," Polin 1 (1986): 151-62 xerox on reserve.
- (Optional) Paul Mendes-Flohr, "Fin-de-Siècle Orientalism, the Ostjuden and the Aesthetics of Jewish Self-Affirmation," Studies in Contemporary Jewry 1 (1984): 96-139 - xerox on reserve.

- 12 Nov. The Biblical Hero as Maskil Michael Stanislawski
- Judah Leib Gordon, "Bein shinei arayot (1865);
Zidkiyahu beveit hapequdot (1880); Yiddish trans. in I.
J. Schwartz, Hebreishe poezye (NY, 1942), pp. 289-96.
- Michael Stanislawski, For Whom Do I Toil? Judah Leib
Gordon and the Crisis of Russian Jewry (Oxford UP,
1988), chaps. 4, 8 - Res PJ 5052 G6 Z82 1988.
- 26 Nov. David in the Golden Age Raymond P. Scheindlin
- Solomon ibn Gabirol - from Schirmann, Hashira ha'ivrit
beSefarad ubeProvans, 1:240-42 (nos. 1-5).
- Shmuel Hanagid - ibid., pp. 109-11.
- 3 Dec. The Holocaust in Jewish Memory David G. Roskies
- Rachel Auerbach - "Yizkor, 1943"; Yitzhak Katzenelson,
"The Song of the Murdered Jewish People" (1944) - The
Literature of Destruction.
- Elie Wiesel, One Generation After (NY, 1970) - Res PQ
2683 I4 E53.
- Saul Friedlander, When Memory Comes (1978) - Res DS 135
F9 F7413.